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TIMELINEZ

NEW PRODUCT RUMORS AND INFORMATION

LOCAL USER GROUPS

SAN FRANCISCO / BAY AREA TIMEX / SINCLAIR USERS

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 3

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

\$1.00

ORGANIZER: THE POOR MANS UP

THIS ARTICLE THAT YOU ARE READING IS A PRODUCT OF THE TIMEX FILE PROGRAM "ORGANIZER" AND THE TIMEX 2040 PRINTER. MANY OF THIS MONTH'S GRAPHICS AND COMPANION ARTICLES TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE VERSATILITY OF "ORGANIZER" (SINCLAIR/PSIONS VU-FILE) AS A MULTI-USE PROGRAM. IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT THIS VERY USEFUL PROGRAM IS NOT THE WORD PROCESSOR TO END ALL FOR THE TIMEX/SINCLAIR - IT DOES OUT PERFORM MANY PROGRAMS THAT ARE DEDICATED SOLELY TO THAT TASK ON THESE MACHINES.

WHY USE IT?

IF YOU ARE USING YOUR TIMEX 2040 PRINTER FOR YOUR HARD COPY ORGANIZERS EDITING AND PRINTING FUNCTIONS ALONG WITH ITS FULL ACCESS TO GRAPHICS AND MACHINE-CODE SPEED MAKE IT THE MOST PRACTICAL SOFTWARE BASED "WORD PROCESSOR" I'VE USED. OTHER PROGRAMS I'VE USED, BOTH PUBLIC DOMAIN AND COMMERCIAL, LOSE PROCESSING SPEED WHILE ATTEMPTING TO GIVE THE USER FULL SIZE EDITING CAPABILITIES. WAITING FOR EACH LINE TO BE "DIGESTED" (FROM 5 TO 15 SECONDS) CAN EASILY THROW OFF ANY PATTERN OF THOUGHT AND FRUSTRATES EVEN THE BEGINNING TYPIST. ORGANIZER ALLOWS THE USER TO FORMAT HIS "FILE" TO FUNCTION LIKE A TYPEWRITER WITH THE "ENTER" KEY BECOMING A RETURN KEY, "DELETE" GAINS AUTO-REPEAT FOR LINE ERASURES, "QUOTES" AND ~~INVERSE~~ LETTERS FOR HIGHLIGHTING - ALL COMING WITH CLOSE-TO-TYPEWRITER KEY RESPONSE (I HAVE A FULL SIZE KEYBOARD). NO GRAYING OF THE SCREEN AFTER EACH LINE, NO NEED TO LEARN A SPECIAL SLOW SPEED KEYSTROKE.

WHAT DON'T YOU GET?

MANY FULL SCALE WORD PROCESSING SYSTEMS ALLOW FOR BLOCK TRANSFERS, SPECIAL DELETES, SPACE ADDITIONS, MULTIPLE MISSPELLINGS TO BE CORRECTED WITH ONE OPERATION - ADVANCED EDITING FEATURES THAT CAN BE DONE WITH MUCH SACRIFICE TO SPEED AND MEMORY SPACE ON A TIMEX/SINCLAIR WITH 16K RAM. ANOTHER MISSING FEATURE IS THE ABILITY TO JUSTIFY BOTH MARGINS - YOU DEAL

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***** TIMEX NEWS UPDATE *****

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR A S/W PROMOTION RUNNING BETWEEN JULY 15 AND OCT. 31 AT YOUR LOCAL TIMEX DEALER. IF YOU BUY 2 PROGRAMS AND SEND THE REQUIRED INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR PURCHASE BACK TO TIMEX, YOU CAN HAVE YOUR CHOICE OF ANY 2 ADDITIONAL TAPES FOR FREE.

THIS SOUNDS LIKE A SUPER GOOD DEAL, ESPECIALLY SINCE YOU CAN SPEND YOUR MONEY ON TWO CHEAP TAPES AND GET MORE EXPENSIVE PROGRAMS FOR FREE.

THE LATEST INSIDE INFORMATION FROM THE TIMELINEZ "RELIABLE SOURCE" CONCERNING NEW PRODUCTS IS AS FOLLOWS:

MODEL 2020 CASSETTE RECORDER
 \$49.95 - 3RD QTR. 1983

MODEL 2050 MODEM \$99.95 - SEPT.

MODEL 2030 80 COLUMN PRINTER
 \$199.95 - FEB.

MODEL 2090 JOY STICK \$19.95
 SEPT.

MODEL 1510 COMMAND CARTRIDGE
 PLAYER FOR 1500 AND 1000 \$19.95
 1ST QTR. 1984

MODEL 1500 COMPUTER \$79.95 -AUG.

MODEL 2068 COMPUTER \$199.95-SEP.

10 SOLID STATE S/W CARTRIDGES

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NOTICE =====

THE "TELL TIMEX CONTEST" DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO AUG. 31ST. (A WORD TO THE WISE.) TO DATE WE HAVE RECEIVED VERY FEW ENTRIES TO QUALIFY FOR THE 20 S/W PRIZES TO BE AWARDED. SEND YOUR IDEAS, SUGGESTIONS, AND CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISMS CONCERNING TIMEX PRODUCTS TO:

TIMELINEZ
 TELL TIMEX CONTEST
 P.O. BOX 1312
 PACIFICA, CA. 94044

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WITH COLUMN WIDTH WITHIN THE LIMITS OF YOUR 32 CHARACTER SCREEN. WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF COMPUTER, PRINTER, SOFTWARE AND PRICE PAID TO MOVE UP TO A FULL SCALE PROCESSOR AT THIS TIME WOULD MEAN ADDING A FULL SIZE PRINTER INTERFACE AND ONE OF THE NEW EPROM-WORD PROCESSORS AT MANY TIMES THE COST OF ORGANIZER AND THE 2040 PRINTER.

HOW DO YOU MAKE IT WORK? TO USE ORGANIZER FOR TYPING FUNCTIONS LOAD "UU-FILE". DO NOT ENTER ANYTHING WHEN IT SAYS "SET RECORD FORMAT". PRESS "STOP" AND THE NEXT HEADING SAYS "DATA FIELDS". SET UP YOUR FIELDS ON THE LEFT HAND MARGIN, ONE BENEATH THE NEXT. BE CAREFUL TO ONLY OVERLAY THE FIRST TWO FIELDS - THIS IS FOR ORDERING PARAGRAPHS. BY ENTERING LETTERS IN ORDER IN THE FIRST OVERWRITTEN LINE YOU RETAIN THE ORDER IN WHICH YOU TYPED THEM IN. TO INSERT A PARAGRAPH A WORD FALLING BETWEEN THOSE LETTERS CHANGES THE ORDER. "AA" FALLS BETWEEN "A" AND "B". "AAA" BETWEEN "AA" AND "B". ETC. TO GET INTO EDITING MODE PRESS "STOP" AT THE END OF A SCREEN. YOU THEN HAVE THEN FOLLOWING COMMANDS AVAILABLE THAT ARE DESCRIBED IN THE DIRECTIONS THAT COME WITH ORGANIZER:

COMMANDS ARE: ENTER ALTER INFORM FORWARD BACK RESET ORDER SELECT QUIT LIST PRINT COPY DELETE

COME WITH ORGANIZER:

FUTURE ARTICALS WILL GO INTO DETAIL ON HOW THESE EDIT COMMANDS CAN BE USED FOR WORD PROCESSING. USE ORGANIZER FOR A WHILE, GET USED TO ITS SHORTCOMINGS AND THEN DECIDE IF YOU NEED ANOTHER PROGRAM OR ANOTHER COMPUTER. G O O D L U C K ***

VOYAGER

COMPUTER

PRODUCTS

DISCOUNT-TIMEX-SINCLAIR SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE FOR THE EASTBAY. SUNDAYS AT THE ASHBY BART STATION. PLEA MARKET IN BERKELEY. (531-5555 OR 234-3310)

TO BE PRICED BETWEEN \$29.95 AND \$39.95.

56 TAPE CASSETTES FOR THE 2068 AT VARIOUS PRICES.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE STILL SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND PAST EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US ALL NOT TO COUNT ON ANY PRODUCT UNTIL IT IS ACTUALLY IN THE STORES.

TIMELINEZ HAS ALSO MANAGED TO SECURE A COPY OF THE LATEST BROCHURE FOR THE 2000 COMPUTER SERIES OF COLOR COMPUTERS. THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATIONS ARE REPRODUCED FROM THIS BROCHURE.

	TIMEX	
	T/S 2048	T/S 2068
MEMORY		
Total on board memory	40K	72K
- Expandable via over 200 64K memory expansion banks		
KEYBOARD		
Style	Full Travel	
Number of Keys	42 Keys	
Automatic Repeat	Yes	
One-Touch Keyword Entry	Yes	
Reset Key	Yes	
Graphics on Keyboard		
Standard	16	
User Defined Graphics		
Accessed Via Keyboard	21	
DISPLAY		
TV	Yes	
Size (characters x lines)	32 x 24	
Animation	Two separate program selectable 32 x 24 displays can be used	
Resolution	256 x 192 pixels	
FULL WIDTH MODE		
Display Monitor	Yes	
Size	64 x 24	
Resolution	512 x 192 pixels	
NUMBER OF COLORS		
ON TV	8	
Monitor	8	
SOUND		
	4 channel programmable (8 octaves)	
PERIPHERAL PORTS		
	Audio Cassette Interface 2 Joysticks Cartridge Software Expansion Connector	
SOFTWARE MEDIA		
Cartridge	Up to 56K in addition to RAM	
Cassette Tape	Audio Recorder	
THE SYSTEM		
Base Unit	T/S 2068	
Additional RAM	Not Necessary	
Total RAM	48K	
Total Memory	72K	
Cassette Program Storage	Audio Cassette	
Hardcopy	2040 Printer	

PROGRAMMING TIPS BY KENDRIC

(2) SAVING BYTES AFTER A MENU

THE MOST USUAL WAY OF TELLING THE COMPUTER TO EXECUTE THE ROUTINE CHOSEN FROM A MENU IS TO USE AN INKEY\$ ROUTINE. SUCH A ROUTINE IS "USER PROOF", THAT IS, THE ONLY UNSPECIFIED KEY LEFT ACTIVE IS "BREAK", BUT IT USES LOTS OF MEMORY (225 BYTES; SEE BELOW).

```
55 LET Q$=INKEY$
60 INPUT Q$
65 IF Q$<>"1" AND Q$<>"2" AND
Q$<>"3" AND Q$<>"4" AND Q$<>"5"
THEN GOTO 55
70 IF Q$="1" OR Q$="2" OR Q$="
3" OR Q$="4" OR Q$="5" THEN CLS
75 IF Q$="1" THEN GOTO 100
80 IF Q$="2" THEN GOTO 200
85 IF Q$="3" THEN GOTO 300
90 IF Q$="4" THEN GOTO 400
95 IF Q$="5" THEN GOTO 500
```

A ROUTINE THAT DOES THE SAME JOB BUT ONLY USES 61 BYTES IS LISTED BELOW.

```
55 INPUT Q
60 CLS
65 IF Q<=5 THEN GOSUB Q*100
70 CLS
75 GOTO 10
```

IF YOU ENTER 6 TO 0 OR 0, THE COMPUTER RETURNS TO THE MENU (GOTO 10). IF YOU ENTER A LETTER NOT USED IN THE PROGRAM, IT PRINTS THE "REPORT CODE" FOR UNDEFINED VARIABLE. IF YOU ENTER A LETTER THAT IS A DEFINED VARIABLE, THE COMPUTER WILL TRY TO EXECUTE A ROUTINE, BUT WILL SOON CRASH UNLESS YOU ENTER "BREAK". OTHERWISE, THIS ROUTINE WORKS JUST AS WELL AS THE INKEY\$ ROUTINE, AND IT SAVES LOTS OF BYTES.

DO YOU HAVE A BETTER WAY TO DO THIS? CALL KENDRIC SMITH AT (415) 493-7210 (PM).

BOOK REVIEW

WE NOW SEEM TO BE WELL INTO THE SECOND AND THIRD GENERATION OF T/S BOOKS AND THEY ARE, FOR THE MOST PART, A GREAT ADVANCE OVER THE SOMETIMES HASTILY EDITED AND PUBLISHED REPRINTS OF ENGLISH ORIGINALS THAT WE GOT AT FIRST. AMONG THE NOTEWORTHY NEW TITLES IS "TIMEX/SINCLAIR 1000 BASIC PROGRAMS IN MINUTES" BY STANLEY R. TROST (SYBEX).

MR. TROST, A WALNUT CREEK CONSULTANT, HAS GROUPED HIS PROGRAMS THEMATICALLY INTO CHAPTERS WITH NAMES SUCH AS "HOME AND BUSINESS FINANCE" AND "DATA ANALYSIS PROGRAMS." FOR THIS REVIEW I ENTERED AND TESTED THE CHAPTER CALLED "REAL ESTATE PROGRAMS."

A KEY FEATURE OF THIS BOOK IS THE WAY IN WHICH THE PROGRAMS ARE ORGANIZED TO MAKE USE OF A LIBRARY OF SUB-ROUTINES THAT ARE USED IN VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE PROGRAMS IN THE BOOK. ONE IS FIRST INSTRUCTED TO KEY THESE SUB-ROUTINES FROM THE APPENDIX AND THEN SAVE THEM AS A GROUP ON TAPE. SINCE THEY HAVE NO LINE NUMBERS IN COMMON WITH EACH OTHER OR WITH THE PROGRAMS IN EACH CHAPTER THEY CAN BE EASILY CALLED FROM ANY OF THE PROGRAMS. IN ADDITION, AS MR. TROST POINTS OUT, THESE SUB-ROUTINES ARE OF SUCH GENERAL USEFULNESS THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO INCORPORATE THEM INTO YOUR OWN PROGRAMS. IN FACT, AN APPENDIX OFFERS SUGGESTIONS FOR DOING SO.

ONCE YOU HAVE THE SUB-ROUTINES ON TAPE ENTERING THE REMAINDER OF EACH PROGRAM IS REMARKABLY EASY. THIS IS BECAUSE THE SUB-ROUTINES HANDLE THE INPUT AND DISPLAY CHORES AND THE BULK OF WHAT'S LEFT IS THE FORMULAE FOR THE SPECIFIC CALCULATIONS. EACH PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO DO.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

exatron

STRINGY FLOPPY

TIMEX 1000 STARTER KIT
INCLUDES 5 WAFERS, MANUAL,
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TIMEX 1000 DRIVE 99.50

TIMEX INTERFACE 59.95

SHIPPING \$3.00 CR. TAX 6.5

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SUNNYVALE, CA 94086

During the last couple of months, large numbers of new Timex computer owners have been turning up at the various user group meetings around the Bay area. In order to help these people overcome some of the more common problems associated with the T/S computer, I have attempted to gather together several of the best articles from past newsletters dealing with these problems. I have also provided additional information that I thought might be of help.

I hope you will not find the size of the print too small, but it seemed important to include as much information as possible. Please do not become discouraged by these articles. Once you get a little experience with the computer behind you, the matters discussed here will become second nature. Don't forget that there are also friendly and experienced club members waiting to help you at your local user group. Good luck.

George McKridge

RAM-PACK WOBBLE

RAM-pack wobble is a phrase that has been used to describe a problem frequently encountered with the Sinclair-Timex computer with a 16-K RAM pack. (We borrowed the phrase from Tim Hartnell, the British author and publisher who spoke at our December meeting. Tim uses the phrase as the title of a column he writes in a British magazine.) The problem is usually observed when entering information into the machine and results in a system crash. It occurs because of the mechanical design of the RAM pack (reportedly the design is that of Uncle Clive's brother). The RAM pack is cantilevered off the back of the computer such that motion of the RAM pack relative to the computer occurs when keys are pressed. The motion causes a break in electrical contact on the edge connector between the two units.

There are many, many different solutions to the RAM-pack wobble problem. If you have had the computer for a while, you have undoubtedly found a solution. For new users, here is a list of some of the solutions which have been proposed. They are in no particular order, and we don't guarantee any of them.

- Tim Hartnell's solution, as we reported in the January newsletter, is to mount the computer and RAM pack to a shelf with big C-clamps and to use an external keyboard. There are a number of alternatives associated with the use of an external keyboard as to where the computer is placed (e.g., on the shelf, in the base of the keyboard). These solutions work because they eliminate the need to touch the computer.
- Will Stackman, in the missive he handed out at the last meeting, proposed Blue Goo as "a cheap and final solution" to the problem. He says to buy a package of Fun-Tak synthetic rubber kneadable adhesive at your local five and dime. "Wedge a wad between the RAM pack and the case." Various other solutions using household and silly puddy have been proposed, but this solution is perhaps better as there is little oil in the Blue Goo.
- Similar to the Blue Goo solution, the use of Velcro has been proposed by several different people. Simply glue a strip to both the computer and the RAM pack and the wobble is gone. Memotech's memory modules come with patches of self-adhesive Velcro.
- One of the frequently cited and simplest solutions is to pull the RAM pack out a small amount. This solution doesn't require items you may not have in the house. Some have suggested the reverse, pushing the RAM pack in as far as it will go; however, pulling out a silly millimeter or two is probably the more reliable solution.
- More than one person has soldered the RAM pack to the edge connector. Less drastic, but equally effective, ribbon cable can be soldered to both units providing a permanent connection. It has also been suggested that the edge connector be replaced with a more reliable connector.
- Various arrangements of elastics have proved effective. Gene Blumenreich says to wrap three large rubber bands, of the type found on the Boston Sunday Globe, around the base of the computer and RAM pack. Be sure to place the rubber bands so they don't go over the keyboard. Place a book or magazine under the computer, but not the RAM pack. Don't let anything hit the RAM pack. Gene writes that "the resulting structure looks messy, but it is pretty stable."
- One company is selling a flexible cable interface between the computer and RAM pack. Another company manufactures a plastic guard which surrounds the RAM pack to prevent bumping of the unit.
- Wedging erasers and pencils between the computer and the RAM pack have been proposed. The use of contact cleaner and television tuner lubricant have apparently been used by some people to good effect. It has been suggested that the use of a soft surface for the computer, such as a magazine instead of a table, will prevent wobble.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Reprinted from the March, 1983 issue of The Boston Computer Society T/S User Group newsletter.

With a brother like this, Uncle Clive should be qualified to run for President in the U.S.

Note:

This is my personal favored solution to this problem. I also use bigger rubber feet under the computer so that the RAM pack is up off the ground and not subject to drag when the computer moves.

Geo.

Computer Continuum, a local company, sells these flexible connectors.

TAPE LOADING PROBLEMS?

Difficulty when loading programs from cassette tapes is one of the most common problems with the ZX81. There are a few things you can check to avoid trouble:

1. When the computer is loading a program, the TV monitor shows horizontal black bars. These tend to "jiggle" when code is being passed, but stabilize between blocks. If the recorder output is correct, there should be FIVE bars visible. (The top one is about 1 1/4 in deep, the lowest about 3/8 in.)

If you see only four bars, increase the output level, if six bars are visible, the volume is too high.

2. If you have difficulty seeing the pattern described, try typing LOAD"name" with the recorder disconnected. If this gives the same pattern as you saw with it connected, the computer is not getting enough signal. You may want to try a different recorder to see if you get the "bars".

3. If the pattern looks ok, but you don't get a correct load, listen to the output tones. There should be quiet "gap" of 5 seconds between blocks. Noise in the gaps can end the loading process, returning the computer to blank screen with K-cursor.

4. For tapes made from your own computer, remember to allow the recorder to run about 15 seconds before you press ENTER. This lets the automatic level control adjust itself in a consistent manner. It is often an advantage to have a second copy of the program saved. Let the tape keep running after the first save, and type SAVE"name" ENTER again.

5. If the difficulty is mainly with saves of your own programs, the signal to the recorder may be the problem. During the SAVE, the signal at the MIC jack should be 1 to 5 millivolts.

The cassette recorder should be connected to the same electrical outlet as the computer and television, to reduce induced 60 cycle hum. Turning one plug over in the socket can also affect 60 cycle hum. If your tape recorder will operate from batteries, try running it on the batteries. The recorder and computer should be positioned such that the cable connecting them does not run under the computer or memory pack. Keep the computer, recorder, and television separated by some distance to minimize interference. Make sure that the connectors are clean by wiping with a clean dry cloth.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Reprinted from the July, 1982 issue of the Sinelink newsletter.

The brand and quality of tape can also make a difference. Data grade tape is available.

If you have tone controls, set the bass to minimum and treble to maximum. If you have a single tone control, this is usually the maximum setting.

If you just get a K cursor after trying to load a program, then turn the volume up a little and try again. If you get random garbage on the screen, try turning the volume down a little.

This is an additional hint from the Feb. 1983 issue of The Boston Computer Society T/S User Group newsletter.

PROTECT YOUR COMPUTER FROM LINE TRANSIENTS

The Timex/Sinclair computers should have more protection from power line faults than they do, and it is relatively easy to add it. They are, after all, hobby grade machines, rather than industrial or military grade. They are thus much less expensive, but many little features of the other machines have been left out. One of them is protection from power line transients.

PG&E regularly supplies a few large voltage spikes along with the regular 120 volts, 60 Hertz power that you normally expect, and at no extra charge. The source of them is not always known for sure, but typically can come from switching of heavy loads, or lightning strikes. They're not predictable, and so are described in statistical terms. The "Monthly" event, for example, is a spike that rises to about 1500 Volts, then drops with a time constant of about 20 milliseconds. Should you happen to be running your computer at that time, the chances are pretty good that it would be damaged, yet the power company is not liable for damage. They don't happen regularly, but over several years, you can expect one about every 700 - 800 hours of operation.

Protection from such surges is fortunately cheap and simple. A device called a metal-oxide "Varistor" is made by GE and a couple of other companies, that behaves sort of like a zener diode, in that for voltages over its threshold its resistance drops greatly so that it shorts out and absorbs the transient. They look sort of like a disk ceramic capacitor, being a red blob about 0.5" in diameter, and 0.1 - 0.2" thick, with two wire leads coming off tangentially. A suitable part number to use would be GE's MOV series: V130LA10, and it costs about \$1.30 from electronic supply houses. You simply connect it across the power line near where it enters the computer, at the power outlet, or even to the blades of an extra plug that you put into the outlet where you plug in the Power Supply for the computer.

Any spikes on the line will now be mostly swallowed by the Varistor, reducing the stress on the voltage regulator inside the computer. Such a thing may never happen to you, but it is a cheap and simple bit of insurance you can provide to maintain the health of your computer.

Reprinted from the Nov., 1982 issue of the Sinelink newsletter.

Personal Note: I have installed one of these in a 3 outlet plug. I then can use it for my computer, TV, and tape recorder. I can also take it with me when I take my equip. to another location.

Geo.

Also available at Radio Shack. See page 116 in 1983 catalog. Part no. 276-570. \$1.59

EBZUG

EAST BAY TIMEX/SINCLAIR USERS

WE ARE AN EAST SAN FRANCISCO BAY/OAKLAND AREA COMPUTER USER GROUP SPECIALIZING IN TIMEX, SINCLAIR AND MAINLY OTHER Z80 BASED SYSTEMS.

PRESIDENT	JOEL BRODY
VICE PRES	RICK LINK
TREASURER	WOODY MCPHEETERS
SECRETARY	HENRY POLLARD
LIBRARIAN	HENRY POLLARD
EDITOR	RICK LINK

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE WEST BRANCH OF THE BERKELEY PUBLIC LIBRARY. MEETINGS START AT 7:30 PM.

ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING EBZUG SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

EBZUG
654 40TH. STREET
RICHMOND, CA 94805
(415) 234-3310
CALL BEFORE 8:00 PM

FUTURE MEETINGS	AUGUST	18
	SEPTEMBER	15
	OCTOBER	20

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INTERSTATE 880 / HWY 17

=====

SACTO

SF>

PUBLIC DOMAIN SOFTWARE

Public domain software is software that you may copy and use without paying a fee for doing so. There are two main sources of public domain software.

1. Authors who wish their programs to be circulated and used free of charge. Many members of users' groups write such programs; for example Jim March has written a hex loader and a word processor

that club members may copy and use. Joel Brody's moving dot program in last month's news letter is another example.

2. Books and magazines contain programs which can be typed and circulated to those who have bought the publications but do not have the skill or time to type all the programs.

The main point in circulating public domain programs is that no charge should be made for the programs themselves. A charge may be made for materials (such as cassettes). In the case of EBZUG's programs bring your cassettes and tape recorder and you can do the copying at club meetings. You are urged strongly to make copies of public domain software that you have available to club members. The librarian will make a copy on a club tape. You may add lines to the program crediting yourself as the benefactor who keyed in the public domain program. In this way everyone will benefit, including yourself when you copy the work of your generous fellow club members.

--Henry Polard, EBZUG librarian.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

ONCE YOU HAVE KEYED IN A WHOLE CHAPTER YOU HAVE A MENU-DRIVEN PROGRAM THAT ALLOWS YOU TO CHOOSE AMONG THE VARIOUS SUB-PROGRAMS. FOR EXAMPLE, MY REAL ESTATE TAPE PERFORMS SUCH CALCULATIONS AS "EFFECT OF ACCELERATED PAYMENTS," "RENTAL PROPERTY ANALYSIS," AND "AFFORDABLE HOUSE PRICE," AMONG OTHERS.

WHILE THE PROGRAMS OFFERED IN MR. TROST'S BOOK ARE INDEED USEFUL IN THEMSELVES, THE REAL VALUE OF THIS BOOK FOR ME HAS BEEN IN LEARNING HOW GROUPS OF RELATIVELY SIMPLE SUB-ROUTINES CAN BE EASILY AND QUICKLY ADAPTED TO MANY USES WITH THE RESULTING CODE BEING DENSE, EFFICIENT AND EVEN ELEGANT.

BUGS AND TYPOS? ONLY ONE NOTED SO FAR: IN LINE 3020 OF THE DISPLAY DIALOGUE SUB-ROUTINE THE PRINT POSITION MUST BE CHANGED FROM 18,0 TO 17,0. OTHERWISE PROGRAMS COME TO A HALT WITH THE "SCREEN FULL" REPORT.

NORM LEHFELDT

TIMELINEZ

PUG NEWS

I WAS DOWN AT SUNSET ELECTRONICS LAST WEEKEND AND JOHN WARBURTON INFORMED ME ABOUT A SPECIAL OFFER HE IS RUNNING IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TIMEX 2 FOR 2 SOFTWARE PROMOTION. WHEN YOU BUY TWO TAPES FROM COLUMN A, YOU GET YOUR CHOICE OF ANY FREE TAPE FROM COLUMN B.

AFTER YOU GET YOUR TWO FREE TAPES BACK FROM TIMEX, YOU WILL END UP WITH \$ FOR THE PRICE OF 2. IF YOU ARE WONDERING WHICH TAPES ARE IN COLUMN A AND WHICH ARE IN COLUMN B, YOU WILL JUST HAVE TO PAY A VISIT TO SUNSET ELECTRONICS AND SEE FOR YOURSELF. THERE WERE TOO MANY FOR ME TO REMEMBER.

JOHN ALSO TOLD ME THAT HE IS TAKING ORDERS FOR THE 1500 AND 2058 COMPUTERS TO BE RELEASED SOON. I WOULD URGE ALL OUR MEMBERS IN THIS AREA TO SUPPORT SUNSET WITH THEIR PATRONAGE BECAUSE IT IS THE ONLY LOCAL STORE THAT CARRIES A FULL LINE OF PRODUCTS FOR THE TIMEX SINCLAIR COMPUTERS. IF YOU WANT A COPY OF THEIR NEW CATALOG DUE OUT SOON, DROP JOHN A LINE AT THE ADDRESS IN HIS AD.

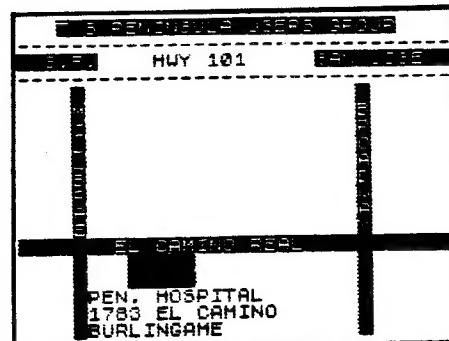
I HAVE RECENTLY DONE SOME EXPERIMENTING WITH THE WINKY BOARD AND I AM NOW ABLE TO USE IT TO ALIGN THE HEADS ON TAPE RECORDERS. I WOULD BE GLAD TO CHECK ANYBODY'S RECORDER AT THE NEXT MEETING AND REALIGN IT IF NECESSARY. IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE.

I HAVE OBSERVED THAT MORE THAN A FEW MEMBERS IN EACH GROUP ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN HAM RADIO AND SHORT WAVE. MAYBE SOMEONE WOULD LIKE TO ORGANIZE A SUB-GROUP MEETING FOR THESE PEOPLE. TIMELINEZ WOULD BE HAPPY TO PUBLICIZE SUCH AN EVENT.

ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME FOR ANOTHER JOINT MEETING TO BRING TOGETHER ALL THE PEOPLE IN THE BAY AREA? THE PENINSULA GROUP HAS THE FACILITIES TO HOST THE NEXT MEETING AND WE ARE CENTRALLY LOCATED. HOW ABOUT SOME WEEKEND IN SEPTEMBER? I WOULD ASK PAUL AND JOEL TO DISCUSS THIS WITH THEIR GROUPS AND THEN GET BACK TO ME.

I WILL SEE ALL YOU PUG/ERS AT THE NEXT MEETING.

George



MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. **SEP. 20**

AUG. 21ST.

SEP. 18TH.

MEET. ROOMS ARE ON LOWER FLOOR.

NOTE WE HAVE BEEN ASKED NOT TO PARK IN THE VISITOR LOT. PLEASE USE THE LOTS SURROUNDING THE VISITOR LOT.

ELECTRICAL OUTLETS AND TABLES ARE AVAILABLE SO BRING YOUR EQUIP. AND EXTENSION CORDS IF POSSIBLE.

CAFETERIA SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AND FAMILIES ARE WELCOME.

MEMBERSHIP SCHEDULE:

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PARTIAL (NEWSLETTER ONLY) \$10/YR

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

GEORGE MOCKRIDGE
263 GATEWAY NO. 107
PACIFICA, CA 94044
(415) 359-3198

SEND NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS:

FRANK HOURA
858 CHENERY ST.
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94131
(415) 333-2231

SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING

TIMEX		Sinclair	
ZX 81		T/S 1000	
T/S 1500	SPECTRUM	T/S 2000	
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NEW TIMEX SOFTWARE

TIMEX HAS JUST COME OUT WITH A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF NEW T/S 1000 SOFTWARE. THERE ARE MANY VERY GOOD PROGRAMS AND SOME THAT ARE INTERESTING NEW USES FOR THE MACHINE BUT CAN USE SOME MODIFICATION. THE RELEASES ARE PROMISING, HOWEVER, SINCE THEY PRESENT SOME NICE NEW APPLICATIONS AND SOME FUN GAMES. BELOW ARE SOME SHORT REVIEWS OF A FEW OF THE MOST INTERESTING.

AUTOMOBILE ANALYZER

THIS PROGRAM KEEPS TRACK OF ROUTINE MAINTENANCE FOR YOUR CAR. THE MOST INTERESTING FEATURE IS A TROUBLE-SHOOTING FUNCTION TO HELP TRACK DOWN PROBLEMS. THIS FEATURE DESERVES A WHOLE PROGRAM BY ITSELF TO MAKE USE OF MORE MEMORY.

SOLAR WATER HEATER DESIGNER

THIS HELPS YOU SET SOME OF THE BASIC DESIGN PARAMETERS OF A SOLAR HEATER. IT MAKES GOOD USE OF GRAPHICS. I REALLY DO NOT KNOW HOW COMPLETE OR ACCURATE THE PROGRAM IS. IT DOES SEEM QUITE USEFUL FOR THOSE PLANNING TO HEAT THEIR WATER WITH THE SUN. IT ALSO IS AN EXCELLENT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.

GUITAR FOR BEGINNERS

A INTRODUCTORY GUITAR COURSE. I REALLY DON'T KNOW HOW USEFUL THE PROGRAM WOULD BE, BUT IT IS VERY CLEVER. I WAS PARTICULARLY FASCINATED BY THE CHORD-FINDER PART OF THE PROGRAM WHICH DEFINITELY DESERVES A FULL 16K TO ITSELF. FOR THIS FEATURE YOU ENTER THE DESIRED CHORD AND THE COMPUTER DISPLAYS THE FRET BOARD AND FINGER POSITION.

PINBALL

A FAST ACTION MACHINE CODE PINBALL GAME. IT IS EXCELLENT. IT INCLUDES FLIPPER ACTION AND YOU CAN NUDGE THE MACHINE ALMOST LIKE REAL PINBALL. A GREAT PROGRAM FOR THOSE WHO DON'T BELIEVE THE T/S IS A REAL COMPUTER.

MERCHANT OF VENUS

ONE OF THE BEST ORIGINAL T/S GAMES. IT COMBINES ARCADE SKILL WITH ADVENTURE GAME STRATEGY. YOU HAVE TO EFFICIENTLY PILOT YOUR ROCKET AROUND VENUS SO THAT YOU DON'T CRASH OR USE UP PRECIOUS FUEL. IN THE MEANTIME YOU ARE BUYING AND SELLING GOODS TO MAKE A PROFIT. AN ADDICTIVE GAME.

REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT ANALYSIS

THIS PROGRAM HAS 2 OPTIONS. IN ONE YOU COMPARE THE ADVANTAGES OF RENTING VS BUYING. THE OTHER ANALYSES RENTAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT. WE RECENTLY HAVE BEEN IN-

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

INTRODUCING

Z-XLR8

A SOFTWARE BASED CASSETTE TAPE STORAGE SYSTEM FOR 16K ZX81 AND TS1000 COMPUTERS

- 4 TO 10 TIMES FASTER than Sinclair LOAD and SAVE routines
- FAST ARRAY VARIABLE loading and saving independent of program
- FAST BINARY DATA loading and saving anywhere in RAM
- USER FRIENDLY PROMPTING in either immediate or program modes
- NO HARDWARE CHANGES. Popped. Works with your existing system
- LESS THAN 2K OF RAM is occupied by Z-XLR8. Cassette version relocatable anywhere in RAM (8-32K). EPROM version resides between 14-16K.

Z-XLR8 Gives You Eleven Tape System Commands:

Program Load (PL)	Program Save (Ps)
Data Load (DL)	Data Save (DS)
Binary Load (BL)	Binary Save (BS)
Graphics Load (GL)	Graphics Save (GS)
Hi Res Graph Load (HL)	Hi Res Save (HS)
Index Load (IL)	

All files are error checked, and load and save FAST. Typically, an 8K file will load/save in less than 10 sec. So we ask you again...what are you waiting for?

Z-XLR8 CASSETTE \$9.50

Z-XLR8 EPROM \$19.50

ALSO

256 X 192 BIT MAPPED HI RES GRAPHICS FOR ZX81 & TS1000
COMPLETE PLANS \$5.00

ADVANCED INTERFACE DESIGNS

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INVOLVED WITH THE PURCHASE OF A HOME AND FOUND THE PROGRAM QUITE USEFUL.

JOEL BRODY

MUSIC EDUCATOR 1

LOADING TIME: 5 MIN 40 SEC
THIS IS A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO GIVE AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BASICS OF MUSIC THEORY - THE TREBLE CLEF, 4/4 TIME, AND NOTES AND THEIR VALUES. IT WILL ALSO TEST YOU ON WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED. TIMEX GRAPHICS ARE USED TO DRAW FIGURES EIGHT TIMES NORMAL SIZE FOR A DYNAMIC EFFECT. AGE: 7 TO ADULT

FUNDAMENTALS OF MATH

LOAD TIME: ADD - 3 MIN 20 SEC
SUB - 3 MIN 20 SEC
MULT - 4 MIN 35 SEC
DIV - 5 MIN 5 SEC

THIS IS TIMEX/S BEST MATH EDUCATIONAL SERIES YET. IT CONSISTS OF FOUR PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE USER/S BASIC MATH SKILLS - DRILL AND PRACTICE ARE ENHANCED BY CLEVER GRAPHICS THAT KEEP THE USER/S ATTENTION FOCUSED MUCH LONGER THAN TIMEX/S EARLIER SUPERMATH. THE GRAPHICS ROUTINE IS A BIT LONGER THAN NECESSARY. AGE: 6 TO 13

SPELLING BEE

LOADING TIME: 5 MINUTES EACH

TIMELINEZ

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

FOUR PROGRAMS PROVIDE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY RANGING FROM THIRD THROUGH COLLEGE SAT TEST PREPARATION.

PROGRAM FORMAT GIVES THE USER 6 OPTIONS: TAKE A TEST, CHECK SCORES, LIST MISPELLED WORDS, PRACTICE MISPELLED WORD LIST, SAVE PROGRAM, QUIT PROGRAM (CLEAR VARIABLES ONLY). YOU CAN ALSO ENTER YOUR OWN WORD LIST. THE TEST OPTION HAS TWO VERSIONS - IDENTIFYING MISPELLED WORDS AND IDENTIFYING AND CORRECTLY SPELLING MISPELLED WORDS. WORD LISTS SEEM TO BE GRADED MORE FOR THE STRONG LEARNER; THE AVERAGE THIRD GRADER WILL RUN INTO SOME DIFFICULT WORDS THAT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR SECOND GRADERS. TIMEX CLAIMS THE FIRST LEVEL IS FOR THIRD GRADERS AND UNDER.

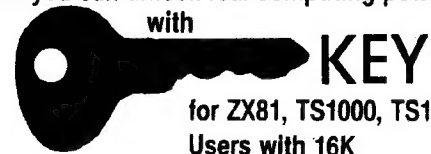
AGE: 8 TO PRE-COLLEGE

CAPITALIZATION MASTER LANGUAGE USAGE MASTER

LOADING TIME: 6 MINUTES EACH
CAPITALIZATION MASTER CONSISTS OF TWO PROGRAMS - LANGUAGE USAGE MASTER THREE. BOTH SETS ARE A PART OF TIMEX/S NEW MASTER SERIES DESIGNED TO ASSIST SCHOOL STUDENTS IMPROVE THEIR SCORES ON STANDARDIZED TESTS. TIMEX HAS FORMATTED EACH PROGRAM IN THE SAME STYLE AS SUCH A TEST. BOTH SETS DO A GOOD JOB FOR WHAT THEY WERE DESIGNED. I HAVE A MINOR COMPLAINT WITH THE CAPITALIZATION SET SINCE THE TIMEX ONLY

AGE: 10 TO 16

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Users with 16K

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UNLOCK — Make any ZX/TS cassette program instantly SAVEable & LISTable

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Instrumentation & Control

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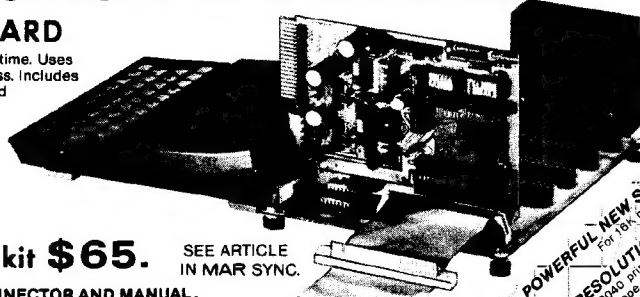
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8 channels A/D + 8 channels D/A. 1.6µS A/D convert time. Uses BASIC or machine code. Does NOT need Buffered Buss. Includes parts for piggyback to ZX/TS & RAM. Many jumper and switch selectable options. Has features which allow easy interfacing to other micros. Tested on ZX/TS, Apple, TRS-80, CBM 64, others. Manual w/software. You must see spec sheets to appreciate this board.

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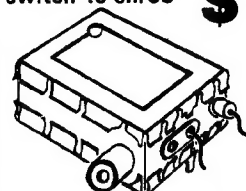
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AUGUST / SEPTEMBER

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ium.

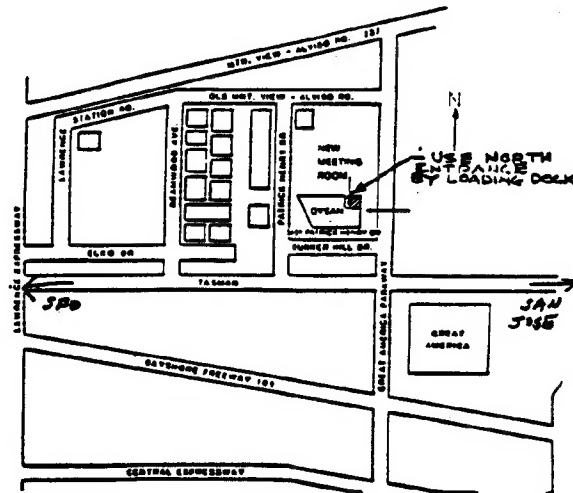
Dysan Corporation
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Phone: 408/241-5661
Day or Evening

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RESUME NEXT MONTH.

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